

A Report to the Montana Legislature

## FINANCIAL-COMPLIANCE AUDIT

# Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

For the Two Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2009

SEPTEMBER 2009

Legislative Audit Division

09-18

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#### LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor Monica Huyg, Legal Counsel



Deputy Legislative Auditors James Gillett Angie Grove

September 2009

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

This is our financial-compliance audit report for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2009. Our report contains four recommendations related to internal controls over nonroutine items, donated property, payroll, and testing and monitoring of controls. The department's written response to the audit recommendations is included in the back of the report.

We thank the director and his staff for their assistance and cooperation during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tori Hunthausen

Tori Hunthausen, CPA Legislative Auditor

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## **APPOINTED AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS**

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission

Term Expires Shane Colton, Chair Billings 2011 Dan Vermillion, Vice Chair Livingston 2011 Willie Doll Malta 2011 Ron Moody Lewistown 2013 Bob Ream Helena 2013

#### Administrative Officials

Joe Maurier, Director

Art Noonan, Deputy Director\*

Sue Daly, Administrator, Finance Division

Ron Aasheim, Chief of Communication and Education Bureau

Jim Kropp, Chief of Enforcement Bureau

David Risley, Administrator, Fish and Wildlife Division\*\*

Vacant, Chief of Fisheries Bureau

T.O. Smith, Strategic Planning and Data Service Bureau

Chas Van Genderen, Administrator, Parks Division

Ken McDonald, Chief of Wildlife Bureau

\*As of June 2009

\*\*As of August 2009

For additional information concerning the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, contact:

Sue Daly, Administrator, Finance Division 1420 East Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701 (406) 444-4786 e-mail: sdaly@mt.gov

## **REPORT SUMMARY**

## Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

This audit report is the result of our financial-compliance audit of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks for the two fiscal years ending June 30, 2009. We issued an unqualified opinion on the financial schedules contained in this report. This means the reader may rely on the information presented in the financial schedules and the supporting data on the state's accounting system.

This report contains four recommendations directed to the department. These four recommendations address internal controls over nonroutine transactions, new hires and donated property. They also address monitoring and testing of controls.

The listing below serves as a means of summarizing the recommendations contained in the report, the department's response thereto, and a reference to the supporting comments.

Recommendation #1
We recommend the department implement controls to ensure nonroutine or unusual transactions are recorded according to state accounting policy.
Office Response: Concur
Recommendation #2.  We recommend the department:
A. Develop controls to value and record donated property.
B. Record all donated property on the Asset Management system that meets the capitalization threshold.
Office Response: Concur
Recommendation #3
We recommend the department update or develop controls to ensure proper approvals are received for new employees.
Office Response: Concur
Recommendation #4
We recommend the department perform monitoring and testing over its internal control procedures as required by state policy.
Office Response: Concur

## Chapter I – Introduction

#### Introduction

We performed a financial-compliance audit of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (department) for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2009. The objectives of the audit were to:

- 1. Determine whether the department complied with selected laws and regulations.
- 2. Obtain an understanding of the department's control systems to the extent necessary to support our audit of the department's financial schedules, and, if appropriate, make recommendations for improvements in the management and internal controls of the department.
- 3. Determine whether the financial schedules present fairly the results of the department's operations for each of the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009, and June 30, 2008.
- 4. Determine the status of prior audit recommendations.

Auditing standards require us to communicate, in writing, control deficiencies we identified as a result of audit objective #2 above and considered to be significant or material. A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is one or more control deficiencies that affect management's ability to accurately process transactions. A material weakness is one or more significant deficiencies that adversely affect management's ability to fairly present its financial schedules.

Table 1 below outlines the status of significant deficiencies and material weaknesses we identified during this audit.

Table 1 Summary of Control Deficiencies										
Subject	Significant Deficiency	Material Weakness	Page							
Nonroutine and unusual transactions	Yes	No	7							
Monitoring and Testing of Internal Controls	Yes	No	10							

As required by \$17-8-101(6), MCA, we reviewed Internal Service Fund type fees and fund equity balances at the department. The statute requires fees and charges for services, which are deposited into Internal Service Funds, be based upon commensurate

costs. During the audit period, the Internal Service Funds at the department included the duplicating center, equipment, aircraft, and warehouse inventory funds. We discuss rates charged for these funds on page 4.

In accordance with \$5-13-307(2), MCA, we analyzed and disclosed, if significant, the costs of implementing the recommendations made in this report. Other areas of concern deemed not to have a significant effect on the successful operations of the department are not specifically included in the report, but have been discussed with management.

## **Background**

The department's mission is to provide for the stewardship of the fish, wildlife, parks, and recreational resources of Montana while contributing to the quality of life for present and future generations.

The department's headquarters are located in Helena. The department maintains seven regional offices located in Kalispell, Missoula, Bozeman, Billings, Great Falls, Glasgow, and Miles City. There are also five area offices located in Libby, Havre, Lewistown, Butte, and Helena. A regional supervisor directs each region.

The five-member Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission sets fish and wildlife regulations, approves property acquisitions, and approves certain rules and activities of the department as provided by statute. Commission members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate. Statute requires representation from five geographical areas of the state.

The department is currently authorized 679.10 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, allocated to programs as noted below. The following paragraphs outline the department organization as reflected in program expenditures on the Schedule of Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out on pages A-9 and A-10.

Management and Finance (96.24 FTE) – provides department-wide support for accounting, fiscal management, personnel, purchasing and property management services, federal aid administration, and licensing of hunters and anglers. It is responsible for department direction regarding policy, planning, program development, guidelines and budgets, direct interaction with the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, and decision-making authority for key resource activities affecting the department. This program includes the director's office and legal services for the department.

<u>Capital Outlay</u> (No assigned FTE) – accounts for major repair and maintenance of the department's properties, renovation and construction of facilities, and protection and enhancement of critical habitats.

<u>Communication and Education</u> (28.55 FTE) – is responsible for public relation functions of the department including film production, and publication and distribution of the Montana Outdoors magazine. The division also informs the public about fish and wildlife laws, administrative rules, and policies designed to regulate outdoor recreational activities.

**Enforcement** (113.43 FTE) – is responsible for ensuring compliance with laws and regulations regarding fish, wildlife and parks through enforcement actions, education, and enhancing relations with landowners, recreational users and the general public.

<u>Field Services</u> (46.05 FTE) – furnishes support services to the department and its field offices. These functions include game damage program administration, landowner/ sportsman relations, block management, design and construction of department facilities, aerial surveys and department transportation, and the acquisition and disposal of real estate and real property.

<u>Fisheries</u> (145.44 FTE) – is responsible for preserving and perpetuating all aquatic species and their ecosystems, and for meeting public demand for fishing opportunities and aquatic wildlife stewardship.

**Parks** (110.33 FTE) – is responsible for conserving the scenic, historic, archaeological, scientific, and recreational resources of certain state-owned properties including fishing access sites, and providing for their use and enjoyment.

Wildlife (104.06 FTE) – is responsible for the department's statewide wildlife management program, which enhances the use of Montana renewable wildlife resources for public benefit. The goals of the division are to protect, regulate, and perpetuate wildlife populations with habitat management and regulated harvest; maintain and enhance wildlife habitat; and provide wildlife recreational opportunities to the public.

**Information Services** (35 FTE) – provides information management services to all department operations. These services include data network administration, hardware and software procurement and support of automated license sales and drawings.

User fees, such as hunting and fishing licenses and state park use fees, are the department's primary sources of funding. The department also receives federal funds

to aid in fish and wildlife restoration efforts, for parks development and maintenance, for boating safety, education and regulation, and for other programs.

### **Prior Audit Recommendations**

The prior financial-compliance audit of the department for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, contained six recommendations and two disclosure issues. The department implemented five recommendations and partially implemented one recommendation. We discuss the partially implemented recommendation below. Also discussed below is a prior audit recommendation from the 05-18 department audit related to reconciling land values, as well as an update to the disclosure issue on internal service funds from the prior audit report.

## **Reconciling Land Values**

In the financial-compliance audit of the department for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2005, we recommended the department reconcile the land values on its land unit inventory to the state's accounting records. The department has made significant progress toward reconciliation during the last four years. However, until both systems are completely reconciled, the recommendation is still applicable.

## Long Term Leases

The department has various land agreements that are classified as leases, land rent, or easements. The prior financial-compliance audit report for the department for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, recommended the department record long term leases as easements rather than rental of land. During the current audit, we found instances where the department recorded an easement in response to the audit recommendation, but a lease was the appropriate accounting treatment. Because there are different types of land agreements and circumstances surrounding those agreements, one accounting treatment does not fit all agreements. The department has made efforts to record leases and easements appropriately as previously recommended. However, due to the errors noted during the audit period, the recommendation is still applicable and the department should analyze each agreement to determine proper accounting according to state accounting policy.

#### **Internal Service Fund Rates**

The prior audit report contained a disclosure issue related to the department's internal service fund rates. The department's internal service funds provide printing services, supplies, equipment, and aircraft to other program operations within the department. Section 17-8-101(6), MCA, requires the fees charged for services provided by internal service funds be commensurate to the costs of the goods or services.

Of the four internal service funds operated by the department, the prior audit report noted two had negative working capital. A third fund had working capital which significantly exceeded the general rule of 60 days.

The following table shows the working capital balances at June 30, 2008, and 2009, for the three funds discussed in the prior audit report.

Table 2 <u>Working Capital Available</u>								
Internal Service Fund	June 30, 2008	June 30, 2009						
Equipment	\$(424,740)	\$(161,817)						
Fish, Wildlife & Parks Aircraft	\$(281,374)	\$(281,855)						
Fish & Game Warehouse	\$108,171	\$99,373						

Source: Compiled by the Legislative Audit Division.

The prior audit report noted that rate increases obtained for the 2009 biennium likely would not be sufficient to recover all costs. During the current audit, we noted that the department considered the shortages noted above and obtained increased rates for the 2011 biennium. However, our review indicates fees were not commensurate with costs for the equipment and aircraft funds during the audit period. The aircraft fund also had a negative fund balance, and therefore, it is not reasonable. Because the department continues to monitor the funds and adjust rates as necessary, we make no recommendation at this time.

## **Chapter II — Findings and Recommendations**

## **Internal Control**

State law and accounting policy address legal requirements related to fiscal control and accountability. A properly implemented and effective control structure will allow the department to prevent, or detect in a timely manner, errors in its financial records or instances of noncompliance with state laws or accounting policies. The following sections outline areas in which the department could improve controls related to nonroutine transactions, new hires, donated property, and monitoring and testing of controls.

#### Nonroutine and Unusual Transactions

The department does not have adequate controls in place for accurately recording nonroutine or unusual transactions.

The department engages in land transactions to provide fishing and wildlife access to the public. Two types of land transactions that the department entered into during the audit period include a land swap and purchases of land with contributed capital. These are discussed below.

### **Land Swaps**

In March of 2008 the department swapped land to create a fishing access site. Although state accounting policy exists which outlines the accounting entries that should be made for this type of transaction, the department recorded the activity as if it were a new purchase rather than a swap. Because the department does not have controls in place to ensure transactions that do not routinely occur, such as a swap, are recorded according to state accounting policy, numerous accounts were misstated in the state and federal special revenue funds in fiscal year 2007-08. These errors ranged between \$293 and \$112,500. We discussed these errors with department staff and corrections were made in fiscal year 2008-09.

## **Contributed Capital**

The department engaged in several property acquisitions where third parties made capital contributions towards the purchases. The department did not record the contributed capital portion of the transactions on the state's accounting records as required by state policy. As a result, revenues and expenditures were understated by \$1.2 million in fiscal year 2007-08 in the ledger that supports the state's Basic Financial Statements. This error was communicated to department staff and correcting entries were made in fiscal year 2008-09. This also resulted in the department recording \$4.3 million in contributed capital for fiscal year 2008-09 land transactions.

The above errors are the result of a lack of controls over nonroutine and/or unusual transactions. The department should develop procedures that ensure state accounting policy is consulted and followed when applicable to the type of activity engaged in.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #1**

We recommend the department implement controls to ensure nonroutine or unusual transactions are recorded according to state accounting policy.

## **Donated Property**

The department does not have controls in place to value donated property and record items exceeding the capitalization threshold on the state's accounting system.

State accounting policy sets capitalization limits for assets. Assets that meet or exceed the capitalization limit are required to be recorded on the state's accounting records. The policy sets the capitalization limit for artwork-type items at \$5,000.

Due to the nature of the department's operations, it occasionally receives donated property such as paintings, prints, wildlife mounts or other artwork. Each region and the headquarters maintain a file or list of the items the department has received through donation.

Through our review, we found the department has not recorded any donated items on the accounting records. We further noted the department does not have any procedures in place for valuing the donated items to determine if they should be capitalized and recorded. Although department personnel noted few items would likely meet or exceed the capitalization limit, we reviewed the donated items lists and files and found 13 items we believe could meet or exceed the capitalization threshold.

Noncompliance with the above state accounting policy results in an understated assets balance on the accounting records. It also increases the risk the items could be misplaced or stolen.

#### RECOMMENDATION #2

We recommend the department:

- Develop controls to value and record donated property.
- B. Record all donated property on the Asset Management system that meets the capitalization threshold.

## **Payroll Authorization Form**

The department's controls over newly hired employees are not effective for ensuring the employees are approved prior to getting paid.

The department developed a payroll authorization form which documents various information about a new employee, as well as documenting the immediate supervisor's and a regional or division administrator's approval of the new hire. The form is used by the payroll department to set up the new employee on the state accounting system and enable them to get paid. The dual approvals are the controls in place to ensure only actual and valid employees are added to the department's payroll.

We selected a sample of ten new hires and reviewed the payroll authorization form. We noted one instance where an employee was hired in January of 2009, and as of June 2009, the form still did not have the proper approvals. During the audit period approximately 375 employees were hired by the department. These new hires are spread across the state and some are in a short-term capacity, therefore, the form is an important control for ensuring the employee was approved prior to getting paid.

Department personnel noted in some cases the payroll authorization form is received in the payroll department without all the approvals in order to start the payroll process. In these cases, a completed form should be received shortly after. We noted the department did not have any mitigating controls in place to ensure incomplete forms received were updated and have the proper approvals prior to the employee getting paid.

Ineffective payroll controls can lead to the payment of fictitious employees. The department should ensure new employees are not entered into the state accounting system until all approvals are received, or develop compensating controls to ensure approvals not immediately received are received prior to the employee receiving a paycheck.

#### RECOMMENDATION #3

We recommend the department update or develop controls to ensure proper approvals are received for new employees.

## Monitoring and Testing of Internal Controls

The department has not monitored and tested internal controls as required by state policy.

State accounting policy outlines management's responsibility for establishing and maintaining agency internal controls to safeguard and account for the resources entrusted to them to carry out government programs. State policy requires agencies to implement internal control procedures to ensure all transactions necessary for compliance with generally accepted accounting principles are recorded on the state's accounting system. To assist agencies in the implementation process, the Department of Administration issued an Internal Control Guidebook. The guide includes an internal control evaluation and monitoring plan, which recommends agencies monitor and test its controls and evaluate and report the results of its testing.

We found during the course of our audit that the department has put significant effort towards documenting their control procedures. To accomplish this, the department hired an employee specifically for developing a process for identifying risks and documenting controls to address the identified risks.

The department completed their controls documentation in June of 2009. Part of their documented processes includes a plan for testing and monitoring. However, because the documentation was not completed until June, no actual testing or monitoring has been completed during the audit period. The department should continue its efforts to implement its planned monitoring procedures.

The three preceding recommendations related to internal controls indicate areas where controls may need to be improved, or monitoring for compliance with control procedures needs to occur.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #4**

We recommend the department perform monitoring and testing over its internal control procedures as required by state policy.

# Independent Auditor's Report and Department Financial Schedules

Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor Monica Huyg, Legal Counsel



Deputy Legislative Auditors James Gillett Angie Grove

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the accompanying Schedule of Changes in Fund Balances & Property Held in Trust, Schedule of Total Revenues & Transfers-In, and Schedule of Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks for each of the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009, and 2008. The information contained in these financial schedules is the responsibility of the department's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial schedules based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial schedules are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial schedules. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial schedule presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in note 1, the financial schedules are prepared on the basis of Montana state accounting policy, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The schedules are not intended to be a complete presentation and disclosure of the department's assets, liabilities and cash flows.

In our opinion, the financial schedules referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the results of operations and changes in fund balances and property held in trust of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks for each of the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009, and 2008, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in note 1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James Gillett

James Gillett, CPA Deputy Legislative Auditor

August 14, 2009

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES & PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

FUND BALANCE: July 1, 2008 PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST: July 1, 2008	Gen Fu \$ (24		State Special Revenue Fund 87,354,238	<u>d</u> .	Federal Special Revenue Fund (234,631) \$	Capital Projects Fund (12,551)	Enterpri Fund \$ 232,09		Internal Service Fund 5,819,291	Agency Fund \$ 0 \$ 182,730	Permanent Fund \$ 31,495,418
ADDITIONS											
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		28	57,626,467	,	24,963,871		7,8	79	3,095,214		2,115,665
Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In			7,908,502	<u> </u>		5,000,000	118,0	60	141,001		(272,554)
Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments		18	(446,329	9)	52,992				2,538		(11,643)
Direct Entries to Fund Balance	493	3,954	3,042,533	3	(212,987)	4,505,902					619,942
Additions to Property Held in Trust										17,549	
Total Additions	494	4,000	68,131,173	3	24,803,876	9,505,902	125,9	39	3,238,753	17,549	2,451,410
REDUCTIONS Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments		4,936 9,901)	65,460,484 4,694,670 109,535	)	24,829,061 (175,905)	5,735,422 185,391	97,10 (2,6)		3,054,360 (240,906) (2,992)	45.005	1,434,214
Reductions in Property Held in Trust			70.004.000		04.050.450				0.040.400	15,995	4.404.044
Total Reductions		5,035	70,264,689	<u>,</u> .	24,653,156	5,920,813	94,60	9	2,810,462	15,995	1,434,214
FUND BALANCE: June 30, 2009 PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST: June 30, 2009	\$ (450	<u>6,293)</u> \$	85,220,722	2 \$	(83,911)	3,572,538	\$ 263,3	<u>20</u> \$	6,247,582	\$ 0 \$ 184,284	\$ 32,512,614

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES & PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

FUND BALANCE: July 1, 2007 PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST: July 1, 2007	General Fund \$ 6,682 \$	State Special Revenue Fund 87,695,769 \$	Federal Special Revenue Fund 1,448,288	Capital Projects Fund  \$ 0 \$	Enterprise Fund 220,746	Internal Service Fund 5 5,882,524 \$	Agency Fund 0 207,777	Permanent Fund \$ 30,073,868
ADDITIONS Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments	1,098 505	59,922,413 5,391,916 (325,083)	29,558,989 665,619	5,000,000	4,777 110,987 1,442	2,976,237 164,499		2,270,905 140,505 1,360
Direct Entries to Fund Balance Additions to Property Held in Trust	175,720	5,724,438	(2,145,889)	(4,505,901)		(7,663)	21,859	582,387
Total Additions	177,323	70,713,684	28,078,719	494,099	117,206	3,133,073	21,859	2,995,157
REDUCTIONS Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments Reductions in Property Held in Trust	429,263	67,357,283 3,566,014 131,918	29,745,506 16,132	506,650	107,028 (1,689) 563	3,339,994 (148,373) 4,685	46,906	1,573,607
Total Reductions	429,263	71,055,215	29,761,638	506,650	105,902	3,196,306	46,906	1,573,607
FUND BALANCE: June 30, 2008 PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST: June 30, 2008	\$ <u>(245,258)</u> \$	87,354,238 \$	(234,631)	\$ (12,551)	232,050	\$ <u>5,819,291</u> \$	182,730	\$ 31,495,418

#### DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

		eneral Fund		State Special Revenue Fund	Federal Special Revenue Fund	С	apital Projects Fund		Enterprise Fund	Inte	ernal Service Fund	Permanent Fund	Total
TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN BY CLASS	_	i unu	-	revenue i unu	Trevenue i unu	_	i unu	-	Tunu		T UTU		Total
Licenses and Permits			\$	45,229,017							\$	413,872 \$	45,642,889
Taxes			•	2,940,627							,	,	2,940,627
Charges for Services				1,863,838					9	Б	3,122,224		4,986,062
Investment Earnings				2,388,302				\$	2,284		-, ,	1,283,873	3,674,459
Fines and Forfeits	\$	46		190,565					, -			,,-	190,611
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property				380,579					123,655		29,421	18,000	551,655
Rentals, Leases and Royalties												115,090	115,090
Grants, Contracts, and Donations				3,455,288									3,455,288
Transfers-in				5,130,092	72,750	\$	5,000,000				114,118	633	10,317,593
Capital Asset Sale Proceeds				25,641	39,750						5,775		71,166
Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries				3,262,453	(16,698)								3,245,755
Miscellaneous				222,238	(111,960)						(32,785)		77,493
Federal					25,033,021			_					25,033,021
Total Revenues & Transfers-In		46		65,088,640	25,016,863		5,000,000		125,939		3,238,753	1,831,468	100,301,709
Less: Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In				7,908,502			5,000,000		118,060		141,001	(272,554)	12,895,009
Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments		18		(446,329)	52,992			_			2,538	(11,643)	(402,424)
Actual Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		28		57,626,467	24,963,871		0		7,879		3,095,214	2,115,665	87,809,124
Estimated Revenues & Transfers-In				57,148,827	36,907,836			_	6,500		3,163,500	1,696,000	98,922,663
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	\$_	28	\$_	477,640	(11,943,965)	\$	0	\$_	1,379	<u> </u>	(68,286)	419,665	(11,113,539)
BUDGETED REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN OVER (UNDER) ESTIMATED BY CLASS													
Licenses and Permits			\$	(10,198)							\$	425,090 \$	414,892
Taxes				672,462									672,462
Charges for Services				(3,585)					\$	\$	(2,276)		(5,861)
Investment Earnings				(262,698)				\$	605			(3,940)	(266,033)
Fines and Forfeits	\$	28		(988)									(960)
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property				(359,340)					774			(2,000)	(360,566)
Rentals, Leases and Royalties												515	515
Grants, Contracts, and Donations				112,849									112,849
Transfers-in				286,932									286,932
Capital Asset Sale Proceeds				7,391							(225)		7,166
Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries				27,396									27,396
Miscellaneous				7,419							(65,785)		(58,366)
Federal			_		(11,943,965)	_							(11,943,965)
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	\$_	28	\$_	477,640	(11,943,965)	\$	0	\$_	1,379	<sup>₿</sup>	(68,286) \$	419,665	(11,113,539)

#### DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	General	State Special	Federal Special	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Service	Permanent	
	Fund	Revenue Fund	Revenue Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Total
TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN BY CLASS						_		
Licenses and Permits	,	45,297,084				\$	406,509 \$	45,703,593
Taxes		3,064,029						3,064,029
Charges for Services		1,593,463	\$ 12			\$ 2,976,237		4,569,712
Investment Earnings		3,507,966			\$ 4,802		1,852,218	5,364,986
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 1,603	154,217						155,820
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property		467,164			112,396	9,217		588,777
Rentals, Leases and Royalties							151,248	151,248
Grants, Contracts, and Donations		2,561,391						2,561,391
Transfers-in		4,636,120		\$ 5,000,000		155,282	2,795	9,794,197
Capital Asset Sale Proceeds		32,844						32,844
Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries		3,431,252	(4,376)					3,426,876
Miscellaneous		241,892	103,279		8			345,179
Federal		1,824	30,125,693					30,127,517
Total Revenues & Transfers-In	1,603	64,989,246	30,224,608	5,000,000	117,206	3,140,736	2,412,770	105,886,169
Less: Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		5,391,916		5,000,000	110,987	164,499	140,505	10,807,907
Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments	505	(325,083)	665,619		1,442		1,360	343,843
Actual Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In	1,098	59,922,413	29,558,989	0	4,777	2,976,237	2,270,905	94,734,419
Estimated Revenues & Transfers-In	. ———	59,446,895	28,829,333		5,000	2,999,000	2,270,000	93,550,228
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	\$ <u>1,098</u> \$	475,518	\$729,656	\$0	\$ (223)	\$ (22,763)	905 \$	1,184,191
BUDGETED REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN OVER (UNDER) ESTIMATED BY CLASS								
Licenses and Permits	5					\$	(3,637) \$	10,222
Taxes		262,168						262,168
Charges for Services		30,199				\$ (5,763)		24,436
Investment Earnings		31,592			\$ (231)		9,508	40,869
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 1,098	3,446						4,544
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property		14,683						14,683
Rentals, Leases and Royalties							(4,966)	(4,966)
Grants, Contracts, and Donations		1,685						1,685
Transfers-in		(16,473)						(16,473)
Capital Asset Sale Proceeds		7,844						7,844
Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries		124,420	\$ (7,660)					116,760
Miscellaneous		271	3,156		8	(17,000)		(13,565)
Federal		1,824	734,160			,		735,984
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	\$ 1,098	475,518	\$ 729,656	\$ 0	\$ (223)	\$ (22,763)	905 \$	1,184,191

#### DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	CAPITAL OUTLAY	COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION DIVISION	ENFORCEMENT DIVISION	FIELD SERVICES DIVISION	FISHERIES DIVISION	INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION	MANAGEMENT & FINANCE DIVISION	PARKS DIVISION	WILDLIFE	Total
PROGRAM (ORG) EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT										
Personal Services Salaries Hourly Wages		\$ 1,366,949	5,263,359 \$ 12,080	1,852,229 1,776	\$ 7,158,048 \$ 520	1,806,359 \$	182	\$ 4,327,541 \$ 1,045	5,285,699	15,603
Other Compensation Employee Benefits Personal Services-Other		449,188	1,803,863	558,461	2,399,272	598,938	7,200 1,502,140 (569)	1,455,794	1,627,713	7,200 10,395,369 (569)
Total		1,816,137	7,079,302	2,412,466	9,557,840	2,405,297	6,067,015	5,784,380	6,913,412	42,035,849
Operating Expenses	\$ 422.898	C02 E72	464 245	E 207 E22	4 420 222	4.020.226	2.446.525	452 200	1 004 105	12 040 704
Other Services Supplies & Materials	147,391	683,572 440,012	164,315 396,604	5,397,532 460,187	1,438,222 963,535	1,038,226 286,176	2,446,525 1,464,931	453,389 418,535	1,904,105 439,866	13,948,784 5,017,237
Communications Travel	4,703 90,784	146,322 121,032	198,807 890,742	102,280 506,727	170,694 890,807	46,479 40,808	480,072 220,333	116,122 494,989	194,446 789,494	1,459,925 4,045,716
Rent	2,017,134	14,665	62,340	137,916	159,584	77,002	476,753	46,072	400,794	3,392,260
Utilities Repair & Maintenance	17,436 78,777	13,821 15,018	7,358 73,640	20,386 242,016	427,895 1,333,296	69,916	214,733 667,672	200,292 453,200	31,045 147,042	932,966 3,080,577
Other Expenses	(167,612)	96,503	116,303	323,186	142,612	86,466	1,090,374	77,176	76,424	1,841,432
Goods Purchased For Resale Total	2,611,511	1,601 1,532,546	1,910,109	7,190,230	<u>28</u> 5,526,673	1,645,073	97,694 7,159,087	85,207 2,344,982	3,983,216	184,530 33,903,427
	2,011,011	1,002,040	1,010,100	7,100,200	0,020,010	1,040,070	7,100,007	2,044,002	0,000,210	00,000,427
Equipment & Intangible Assets Equipment			114,596		179,412	24,303	(23,344)	106,626	40,566	442,159
Intangible Assets Total			114,596	7,341 7,341	179,412	24,303	(23,344)	106,626	40,566	7,341 449,500
Capital Outlay										
Land & Interest In Land	17,595,292									17,595,292
Buildings Other Improvements	969,417 4,048,846									969,417 4,048,846
Total	22,613,555									22,613,555
Grants										
From State Sources From Federal Sources	230,943 848,363	617,548	7,800 7,800	32,500	30,000	69,389	216,073	463,476	110,000	1,561,656 1,072,236
Total	1,079,306	617,548	15,600	32,500	30,000	69,389	216,073	463,476	110,000	2,633,892
Benefits & Claims										
From State Sources Total				4,638 4,638						4,638 4,638
Transfers-out	97,000						2.042.764	10.200	200,000	4,227,121
Fund transfers Total	97,000						3,913,761 3,913,761	16,360 16,360	200,000	4,227,121
All Accounts Rollup Other Post Employment Benefits							15,056			15,056_
Total							15,056			15,056
Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out	\$ 26,401,372	\$ 3,966,231	9,119,607	9,647,175	\$ 15,293,925	\$\$	17,347,648	\$ 8,715,824	11,247,194	\$ 105,883,038
EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT BY FUND										
General Fund	A 40 470 544				\$ 433,395	\$	41,678			
State Special Revenue Fund Federal Special Revenue Fund	\$ 13,476,541 7,189,409	\$ 3,139,917 \$ 826,314	8,732,023 \$ 387,584	8,991,560 403,549	5,774,394 § 9,086,136	\$ 4,019,715 124,347	12,325,980 3 801,989	\$ 8,329,113 292,042	5,475,446 5,541,786	70,264,689 24,653,156
Capital Projects Fund	5,735,422	,-	,,,,,		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,-	185,391	•	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	5,920,813
Enterprise Fund Internal Service Fund				252,066			2,558,396	94,669		94,669 2,810,462
Permanent Fund	26 404 272	2 066 224	0 110 607		15 202 025	4 144 060	1,434,214	9 715 924	11 247 104	1,434,214
Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out Less: Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out	26,401,372 569,046	3,966,231 50,527	9,119,607 115,492	9,647,175	15,293,925 893,054	4,144,062	17,347,648 3,597,984	8,715,824 230,762	11,247,194 613,879	105,883,038 6,070,744
Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments Actual Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out	(9,250) 25,841,576	(14,864) 3,930,568	3,595 9,000,520	<u>(20,868)</u> 9,668,043	(168,601) 14,569,472	(1,261) 4,145,323	34,131	35,867 8,449,195	32,172	(109,079) 99,921,373
Budget Authority	78,321,926	4,167,726	9,182,451	10,239,684	18,303,113	4,304,644	13,715,533 24,720,272	9,804,130	14,086,562	173,130,508
Unspent Budget Authority	\$ 52,480,350	\$ 237,158	\$ 181,931	571,641	\$ 3,733,641	\$ 159,321 \$	11,004,739	\$ 1,354,935	3,485,419	\$ 73,209,135
UNSPENT BUDGET AUTHORITY BY FUND										
General Fund					\$ 64					\$ 64
State Special Revenue Fund Federal Special Revenue Fund	\$ 37,232,852 10,989,570	\$ 90,717 \$ 146,441	85,599 \$ 96,332	404,706 72,550	725,435 S 3,008,142	\$ 125,313 \$ 34,008	685,740 10,003,663	\$ 1,244,855 \$ 94,554	927,074 2,558,345	41,522,291 27,003,605
Capital Projects Fund	4,257,928	140,441	90,33∠	72,000	5,000,142	34,000	10,003,003		2,000,040	4,257,928
Enterprise Fund Internal Service Fund				94,385			315,336	15,526		15,526 409,721
Unspent Budget Authority	\$ 52,480,350	\$ 237,158	181,931		\$ 3,733,641	\$ 159,321 \$		\$ 1,354,935	3,485,419	

# DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS SCHEDULE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	CAPITAL OUTLAY	COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION DIVISION	ENFORCEMENT DIVISION	FIELD SERVICES DIVISION	FISHERIES DIVISION	INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION	MANAGEMENT & FINANCE DIVISION	PARKS DIVISION	WILDLIFE DIVISION	Total
PROGRAM (ORG) EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT										
Personal Services	•	4 000 045 0	4.050.000					0.000.044		
Salaries Hourly Wages	\$	1,308,615 \$	4,952,088 \$ 10,999	5 1,689,902 \$ 642	6,891,699	\$ 1,727,281 342	\$ 4,223,831 \$	3,929,644	\$ 4,761,865 \$ 1,616	\$ 29,484,925 13,599
Other Compensation Employee Benefits		419,780	1,670,133	503,490	2,268,461	527,365	8,000 1,421,856	1,100 1,284,604	1 472 206	9,100 9,568,895
Personal Services-Other							4,605		1,473,206	4,605
Total		1,728,395	6,633,220	2,194,034	9,160,160	2,254,988	5,658,292	5,215,348	6,236,687	39,081,124
Operating Expenses			400.000	5 004 550	4 000 000	4.054.750	0.744.070	0.1-	4 504 004	45.000.004
Other Services Supplies & Materials	\$ 499,488 124,699	660,897 400,494	183,926 531,826	5,631,578 422,136	1,936,382 1,611,279	1,054,753 364,103	2,744,978 1,602,082	775,615 525,112	1,581,984 858,640	15,069,601 6,440,371
Communications	901	177,138	195,622	113,600	153,720	30,579	501,417	114,289	187,745	1,475,011
Travel	22,668	127,861	833,411	459,417	880,363	63,016	213,133	484,802	801,773	3,886,444
Rent Utilities	(223,157) 2,463	18,032 17,332	55,450 8,721	115,796 14,691	158,544 415,000	74,563	431,671 226,986	66,330 174,230	106,486 36,686	803,715 896,109
Repair & Maintenance	80,692	21,071	95,630	440,545	1,280,328	30,995	713,113	835,225	231,273	3,728,872
Other Expenses	174,474	91,517	121,724	554,555	117,607	78,562	810,244	96,999	125,618	2,171,300
Goods Purchased For Resale		(331)	4	·	17		97,903	83,165	(114)	180,644
Total	682,228	1,514,011	2,026,314	7,752,318	6,553,240	1,696,571	7,341,527	3,155,767	3,930,091	34,652,067
Equipment & Intangible Assets										
Equipment			126,418	40,375	442,046	22,472	111,144	562,333	96,602	1,401,390
Intangible Assets Total			126,418	5,501 45,876	442,046	5,700 28,172	14,392 125,536	562,333	96,602	25,593 1,426,983
Total			120,410	45,070		20,172	120,330	302,033	30,002	1,420,900
Capital Outlay  Land & Interest In Land	13,031,259								EOE 467	13,556,726
Buildings	1,477,913								525,467	1,477,913
Other Improvements	5,802,778									5,802,778
Total	20,311,950								525,467	20,837,417
Grants										
From State Sources	182,999	314,532	7,800	29,123	2,480	69,389		492,317	110,000	1,208,640
From Federal Sources	1,368,440	044.500	7,800				4,583,599	100.017		5,959,839
Total	1,551,439	314,532	15,600	29,123	2,480	69,389	4,583,599	492,317	110,000	7,168,479
Benefits & Claims										
From State Sources OPEB Expenses				4,850			13,342			4,850 13,342
Total				4,850			13,342			18,192
							<u> </u>			
Transfers-out Fund transfers				19,630			3,423,801	888		3,444,319
Total				19,630			3,423,801	888		3,444,319
Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out	\$ 22,545,617 \$	3,556,938 \$	8,801,552 \$	10 045 831 .9	16,157,926	\$ 4,049,120	\$ 21,146,097 \$	9 426 653	\$ 10,898,847	\$ 106,628,581
Total Exponentials a Translate Sut	<u> </u>	φ	<del></del>	10,010,001	10,101,020	1,010,120	ΨΨ_	0,120,000	Ψ <u>10,000,011</u>	
EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT BY FUND General Fund				а	367,933		\$ 29,029		\$ 32,301	\$ 429,263
State Special Revenue Fund	\$ 15,008,881 \$	2,844,562 \$	8,440,396 \$		6,036,498		11,346,594 \$	8,985,608	5,295,987	71,055,215
Federal Special Revenue Fund	7,030,086	712,376	361,156	462,366	9,753,495	126,374	5,410,083	335,143	5,570,559	29,761,638
Capital Projects Fund	506,650									506,650
Enterprise Fund				400 500			0.700.704	105,902		105,902
Internal Service Fund Permanent Fund				409,522			2,786,784 1,573,607	0		3,196,306 1,573,607
Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out	22,545,617	3,556,938	8,801,552	10,045,831	16,157,926	4,049,120	21,146,097	9,426,653	10,898,847	106,628,581
Less: Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out	227,740	82,018	63,396	19,631	839,147	, , , , ,	3,231,646	189,039	336,942	4,989,559
Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustment		1,903	15,641	19,816	46,872	2,501	13,830	(28,036)	80,842	153,292
Actual Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out	22,317,954	3,473,017	8,722,515	10,006,384	15,271,907	4,046,619	17,900,621	9,265,650	10,481,063	101,485,730
Budget Authority Unspent Budget Authority	74,349,863 \$ 52,031,909 \$	3,675,991 202,974 \$	8,958,657 236,142 \$	10,186,304 179,920	18,559,525 3,287,618	\$\frac{4,091,173}{44,554}	\$\frac{22,828,196}{4,927,575} \\$	9,834,589 568,939	\$\frac{13,950,092}{3,469,029}	166,434,390 \$ 64,948,660
UNSPENT BUDGET AUTHORITY BY FUND	<u> </u>	· ·				· ·	<u> </u>	<del></del>		
General Fund				\$	,		\$ 5,105 \$	500		
State Special Revenue Fund	\$ 29,718,931 \$		, ,		320,463		858,064	488,799	573,594	32,467,936
Federal Special Revenue Fund Capital Projects Fund	12,319,628 9,993,350	10,763	86,200	11,046	2,912,154	28,079	3,967,465	74,077	2,694,803	22,104,215 9,993,350
Enterprise Fund	0,990,000							5,563		5,563
Internal Service Fund				19,417			96,941	<u> </u>		116,358
Unspent Budget Authority	\$ 52,031,909 \$	202,974 \$	236,142 \$	179,920	3,287,618	\$ 44,554	\$ 4,927,575 \$	568,939	\$ 3,469,029	\$ 64,948,660

# Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Notes to the Financial Schedules For the Two Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2009

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## **Basis of Accounting**

The department uses the modified accrual basis of accounting, as defined by state accounting policy, for its Governmental fund category (General, State Special Revenue, Federal Special Revenue, Capital Projects, and Permanent) and certain liabilities of defined benefit pension plans and certain post employment healthcare plans. In applying the modified accrual basis, the department records:

- Revenues when it receives cash or when receipts are realizable, measurable, earned, and available to pay current period liabilities.
- Expenditures for valid obligations when the department incurs the related liability and it is measurable, with the exception of the cost of employees' annual and sick leave. State accounting policy requires the department to record the cost of employees' annual and sick leave when used or paid.

The department uses accrual basis accounting for its Proprietary (Enterprise and Internal Service) and Fiduciary (Agency) fund categories. Under the accrual basis, as defined by state accounting policy, the department records revenues in the accounting period when realizable, measurable, and earned, and records expenses in the period incurred when measurable.

Expenditures and expenses may include: entire budgeted service contracts even though the department receives the services in a subsequent fiscal year; goods ordered with a purchase order before fiscal year-end, but not received as of fiscal year-end; and equipment ordered with a purchase order before fiscal year-end.

## **Basis of Presentation**

The financial schedule format is in accordance with the policy of the Legislative Audit Committee. The financial schedules are prepared from the transactions posted to the state's accounting system without adjustment.

The department uses the following funds:

## Governmental Fund Category

• **General Fund** – to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

- State Special Revenue Fund to account for proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than private-purpose trusts or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific state program purposes. Department State Special Revenue Funds include revenue from licenses and permits, private grants, donations, and mitigation funds for wildlife and fisheries.
- **Federal Special Revenue Fund** to account for activities funded from federal revenue sources. Department Federal Special Revenue Funds include sport fish and wildlife restoration, parks development, boating safety, education and regulation and other federal programs.
- Capital Projects Fund to account for financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities, other than those financed by proprietary funds or trust funds. The department uses this fund for projects administered by the Department of Administration's Architecture and Engineering Division. Additionally, the department received \$5 million each fiscal year in general funds during the audit period for the Access Montana Program. The purposes of this program are for land acquisition, land leasing, easement purchases, or development agreements. The department accounts for this \$10 million in their capital projects fund.
- **Permanent Fund** to account for financial resources that are permanently restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the department's programs. The department uses this fund to record revenue from the sale or lease of department lands and the department's share of the state coal severance tax. Revenue earned from the investment of the trust fund money is transferred to the state special revenue fund for expenditure.

## **Proprietary Fund Category**

- Internal Service Fund to account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of state government or to other governmental entities on a cost-reimbursement basis. Department Internal Service Funds include duplication services, department owned vehicles, aircraft, and warehouse inventory items.
- Enterprise Fund to account for operations (a) financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, where the Legislature intends that the department finance or recover costs primarily through user charges; (b) where the Legislature has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred or net income is appropriate; (c) where the activity is financed solely by a pledge of the net revenues from fees and charges of the activity; or (d) when laws or regulations require that the activities' cost of providing services, including capital costs, be recovered with fees and charges rather than with taxes or similar revenues. The department's enterprise fund is the Visitor's Services Fund. This fund accounts for obtaining and selling educational, commemorative and interpretive merchandise at various sites throughout the state.

## **Fiduciary Fund Category**

Agency Fund – to account for resources held by the state in a custodial capacity. Agency funds may be used on a limited basis for internal (to the State) clearing account activity but these must have a zero balance at fiscal year-end. The department's agency fund is used to account for license agent bonds and collections due to a tribe for licenses sold on their behalf.

## 2. General Fund Balance

The negative fund balance in the General Fund does not indicate overspent appropriation authority. The department has authority to pay obligations from the statewide General Fund within its appropriation limits. The department expends cash or other assets from the statewide fund when it pays General Fund obligations. The department's outstanding liabilities exceed the assets it has placed in the fund, resulting in negative ending General Fund balances for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008 and 2009.

### 3. Direct Entries to Fund Balance

Direct entries to fund balances in the General, State Special Revenue, Federal Special Revenue, Capital Projects, and Permanent funds include entries generated by SABHRS to reflect the flow of resources within individual funds shared by separate agencies. Direct entries to fund balances in the State Special Revenue, Federal Special Revenue Fund, and Internal Service funds also include corrections primarily related to the change in method used to account for indirect costs.

## 4. Capital Outlay Unspent Budget Authority

The Capital Outlay program had unspent budget authority of approximately \$52 million at June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009. Capital projects are approved by each Legislature and can take several years to complete. Budgetary authority carries over each fiscal year until the projects are finished and any remaining authority is then reverted.

## 5. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Foundation

The department has an operating agreement with the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Foundation (foundation), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. The foundation exists to engage in activities related to the preservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and recreational resources in Montana and to provide support from the private sector for the efforts of the department in these areas. The activity between the two entities is stated below:

During the audit period, the foundation did not receive or provide any direct funding from or to the department. The foundation operates to support specific projects and financial resources from the foundation go directly to the project.

## 6. Under Estimate in the Federal Special Revenue Fund

The \$11,943,965 under estimate in the federal special revenue fund on the fiscal year 2008-09 Schedule of Revenues & Transfers-In is the result of an accounting error. The department intended to decrease the revenue estimate by \$5,995,000 but made the entry backwards resulting in an overstated revenue estimate of \$11,990,000. If the entry was made as intended, the result would be an over estimate of \$46,035.

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Department Response



P.O. Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701 (406) 444-3186 FAX: 406-444-4952 Ref: DO369-09 September 2, 2009

Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor Legislative Audit Division State Capitol Helena, MT 59620

**RECEIVED** 

SEP 0 8 2009

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIV.

Dear Ms. Hunthausen:

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) has reviewed the FY2008 and FY2009 financial compliance audit prepared for our agency. FWP appreciates the opportunity to respond to your findings and the professional manner in which the audit was conducted.

FWP has prepared the following responses to the four recommendations made by your office. The department concurs with each of your recommendations, and has stated our plan to implement corrective actions. FWP will also be submitting our corrective action plan to the OBPP that contains our proposed timetable.

#### **Recommendation #1**

FWP recommends the department implement controls to ensure nonroutine or unusual transactions are recorded according to state accounting policy.

**Concur.** The department will implement controls to ensure that all nonroutine transactions are recorded according to state accounting policy.

#### **Recommendation #2**

FWP recommends the department:

- A. Develop controls to value and record donated property; and
- B Record all donated property on the Asset Management system that meets the capitalization threshold.

**Concur.** The department will develop controls to value all donated property and record on the State's Asset Management system all donated property that meets the capitalization threshold.

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#### Recommendation #3

FWP recommends the department update or develop controls to ensure proper approvals are received for new employees.

**Concur.** The department will develop controls to ensure proper approvals are received for new employees.

#### Recommendation #4

FWP recommends the department perform monitoring and testing over its internal control procedures as required by state policy.

**Concur.** As mentioned in the audit report, the department's internal control document includes a plan for testing and monitoring its internal control procedures. The department will implement its planned monitoring procedures starting in FY2010.

FWP appreciates the opportunity to work with your staff to improve the financial management of our agency. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Joe Maurier

Director